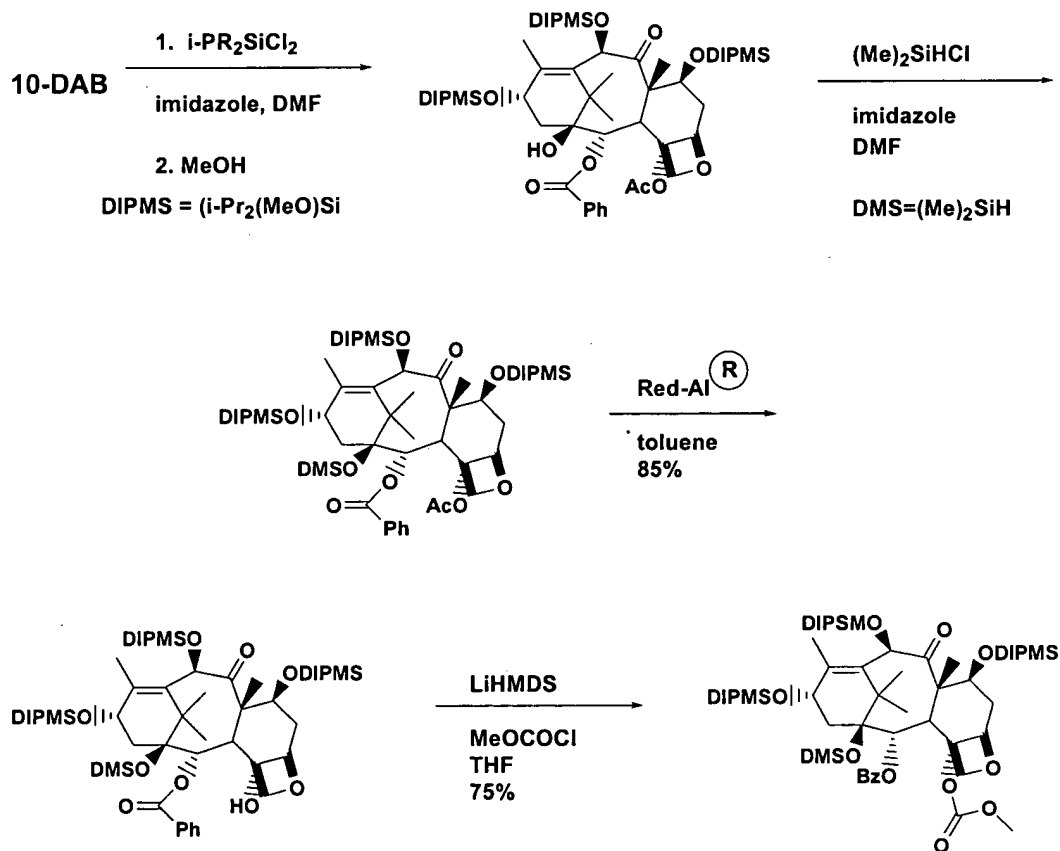


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete Scheme 3 on pages 19 and 20, and insert the following scheme:

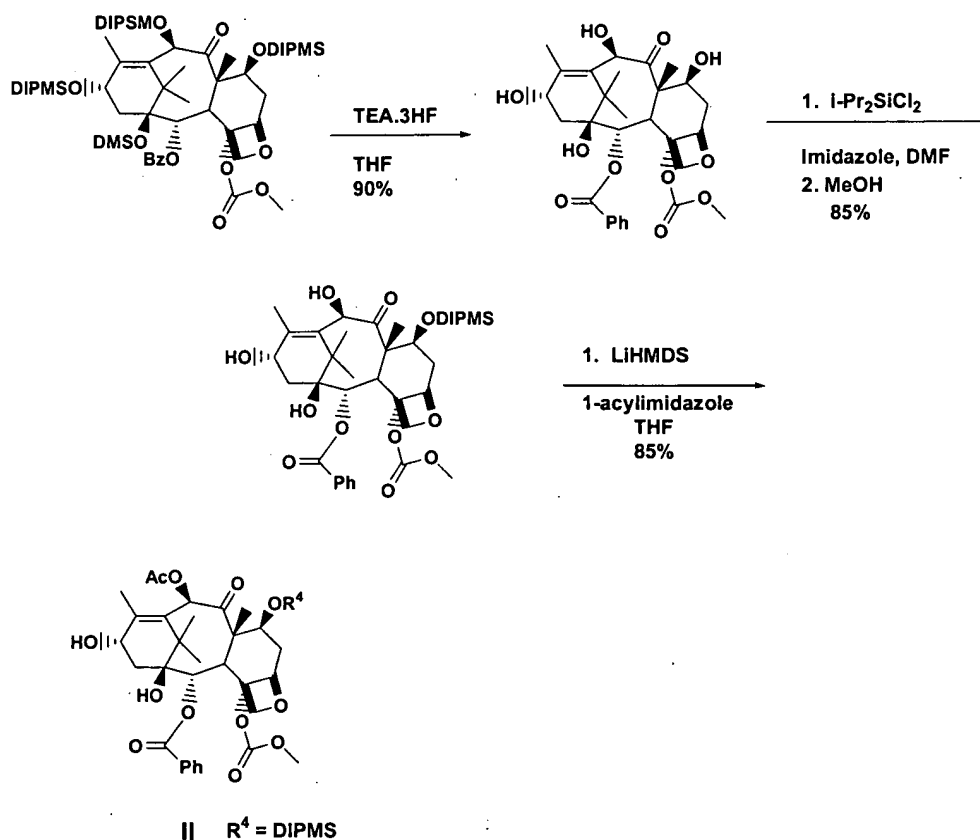
Scheme 3

Preferred Synthesis of Protected C-4 Methyl Carbonate Baccatin



Additionally, please delete Scheme 3 (continued) on page 20, and insert the following scheme:

Scheme 3 continued



Additionally, please amend page 21, line 14, as follows:

--of most preferably an acid chloride, (i.e., $\text{R}^1-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{Cl}$) chloroformate or, alternatively, acid anhydride is added to provide compound I directly.--